

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 were previously pending in the application. Claims 2-7 and 13 are amended, and claim 1 is cancelled. Claims 2-18 are now pending. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and the foregoing remarks.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for indication that claims 14-18 are allowed, and that claims 4-6, 11, and 12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten to place independent form including all of the base claim limitations. Applicant has amended claim 5 to place in independent form. Claims 2-4 and 7-13 are amended to depend from claim 5. Applicant also has amended claim 6 to place in independent form. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of claims 2-13 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

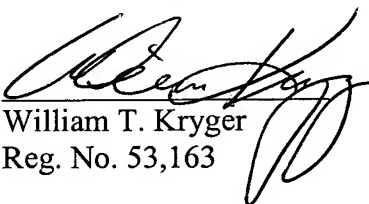
It is submitted that claims 2-18 define patentable subject matter. A Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

No fee is believed due with this communication. Nevertheless, should the Examiner consider any other fees to be payable in conjunction with this or any future communication, authorization is given to direct payment of such fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1170.

Response to Office Action dated July 19, 2005
Appl. No. 10/731,303 filed on December 9, 2003
Art Unit: 3671
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The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it would help expedite matters.

Respectfully submitted,



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